Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/768,121	DISTLER ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Mujtaba K. Chaudry	2133	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *1/25/2006*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *25-30*.

3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some*   c) ☐ None of the:

       1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

       2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

       3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * Certified copies not received: _____ .

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

    (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

       1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____ .

GUY LAMARRE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

4/12/06

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Claims 25-30 are allowed. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Independent claim 25 of the present application teaches a method for generating test patterns for testing logic products on a test system, comprising: generating an initial sequence of test vectors having a plurality of bits comprising care bits and non-care bits; forming a set of filled test vectors by: for a selected test vector in said initial sequence, filling said non-care bits of said selected test vector with preselected values; and for each subsequent test vector in said initial sequence, filling each of said non-care bits of said subsequent test vector with a value of an associated bit a preceding test vector immediately preceding said subsequent test vector in said initial sequence; removing at least one redundant test vector from said filled test vectors to form a minimum set of said filled test vectors; compressing said minimum set of said filled test vectors to form a compressed vector data set; transmitting said compressed vector data set to the test system along with restoration information for restoring said at least one redundant test vector; recovering said care bits of said test vectors in said initial sequence from said compressed vector data set in accordance with said restoration information; and loading said care bits recovered from said compressed vector data set into input latches of the test system. The foregoing limitations are not found in the prior arts of record. Particularly, none of the prior arts of record teach or fairly suggest, "…forming a set of filled test vectors by: for a selected test vector in said initial sequence, filling said non-care bits of said selected test vector with preselected values; and for each subsequent test vector in said initial sequence, filling each of said non-care bits of said subsequent test vector with a value of an associated bit a preceding test vector immediately preceding said subsequent test vector in said initial sequence; removing at

least one redundant test vector from said filled test vectors to form a minimum set of said filled

test vectors; compressing said minimum set of said filled test vectors to form a compressed

vector data set; transmitting said compressed vector data set to the test system along with

restoration information for restoring said at least one redundant test vector; recovering said care

bits of said test vectors in said initial sequence from said compressed vector data set in

accordance with said restoration information..."

Dependent claims 26-30 depend from independent claim 25 and inherently include

limitations therein and therefore are allowed as well.

Any inquiries concerning this communication should be directed to the examiner,

Mujtaba Chaudry who may be reached at 571-272-3817. The examiner may normally be reached

Mon – Thur 6:30 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, please contact the

examiner's supervisor, Albert DeCady at 571-272-3819.

Mujtaba Chaudry
Art Unit 2133
April 12, 2006

GUY LAMARRE
PRIMARY EXAMINER